DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: The whole thing may cost about 2 crores.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. The so-called National Highway Scheme was started as a result of investigations conducted by the Government of India. They made arrangements to plan for Highways throughout India and came to the conclusion that Rs. 450 crores may be spent on the scheme. They invited the various Indian States to co-operate with them and to take up this scheme in conjunction with them. Soon after, the policy of the Government of India changed and, they decided that they will not take any interest in any Highway Scheme of Indian States. As a result they made arrangements to carry on their National Highway Scheme up to Cochin and left Cochin and Travancore to deal with the scheme for themselves. Before this Government were apprised of this change of policy this Government suggested to the Government of India that there are two schemes, one going along the coast and the other through the interior. Offer was made by this Government to the Government of India that we would take up whichever work they leave out. The Government of India agreed to undertake the work of the coastal line. Again the Government of India changed their policy and I believe the whole of the Scheme is under reconsideration. Therefore we have not to rely upon them with regard to any possibility of the scheme. This Government are going through with both these schemes and probably will have to decide on which of these schemes we should embark upon first. As soon as we get the necessary materials, that scheme will be completed, with concrete just like the road from here to Nagercoil. That is the scheme of this Government. Therefore honourable members may take it that there is no question of Indian National Highway Scheme so far as Indian States are concerned. Probably there is no National Highway Scheme for India.

MR. K. A. MOHAMED: It is stated that the width of the road is 43 feet at formation level and varying from 66 feet to 100 feet. Why there is this variation?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: It depends on the embankments, cuttings and things like that. Top will be uniform though the width of bottom varies. Top will be 43 feet wide throughout.

Additional Divisions, Sub-Divisions and Sections in the P. W. D.

179. *MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the total number of additional Divisions, Sub-Divisions and Sections respectively established after the present Chief Engineer has taken charge of the Department; and

(*b*) the total annual expenditure in connection with the maintenance of the above?

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DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN:

(*a*) Divisions 2
Sub-Divisions 15
Sections 41

(*b*) Rs. 1,81,753.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: It is stated in the reply that since the present Chief Engineer has taken charge, 2 Divisions, 15 Sub-Divisions and 41 Sections have been established. Is it justifiable to the amount expended on the P. W. D. works?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: Yes, Sir.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: May I know what is the necessity of increasing these Sections?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: Because various projects have been sanctioned for investigation and execution. Only project works are to be done in Travancore.

MR. E. K. MADHAVAN: Only six projects are.....

PRESIDENT: Order, order. The honourable member has already put up a question.

Junghar Service at Ittynair Kadavu.

180. ✻ MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether a junghar service has been sanctioned by Government at the Ittynair Kadavu ferry on the Chenganuoor-Mannar road *via* Puliyoor;

(*b*) whether there is any junghar at the place now; and

(*c*) whether the approach roads on both sides are fit for such services?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) During rainy season the approaches get slushy and traffic is not easy.

Registration under Medical Practitioners' Act.

181. ✻ MR. P. S. GOPALA PILLAI (*Minachil* cum *Thodupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) how many applications for registration under the Medical Practitioners' Act are pending disposal; and

(*b*) whether there are practitioners who have not applied for registration?

MR. V. RAMANUJA AIYANGAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Sixty eight.

(*b*) Yes.

Ayurveda Vaidyasala in Pathanamthitta taluk.

182. ✻ MR. V. I. IDICULA: Will the Government be pleased to state the number of Ayurveda Vaidyasalas in Pathanamthitta taluk getting Government grant and their respective localities?

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